



The Corporation of the Town of Essex

Special Council Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2026, 5:00 pm

Location: Essex Municipal Building, 33 Talbot Street South

Present: Mayor Sherry Bondy
Deputy Mayor Rob Shepley
Ward 1 Councillor Joe Garon
Ward 2 Councillor Kim Verbeek
Ward 3 Councillor Brad Allard
Ward 4 Councillor Rodney Hammond

Absent: Ward 1 Councillor Katie McGuire-Blais
Ward 3 Councillor Jason Matyi

Also Present: Kate Giurissevich, Chief Administrative Officer
Joseph Malandrucolo, Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services
Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services
Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services
Kate Rowe, Director, Corporate Services
Lyndsay Phoenix, Legislative Clerk
Nelson Silveira, Manager, Economic Development

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request. Please contact the Clerk's Office at clerks@essex.ca or 519-776-7336 extension 1100 or 1101.

The purpose of this meeting was to present the Rural Transit Feasibility Study.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Bondy called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations (comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples), and of the Huron-Wendat Peoples. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest noted at this time.

4. Adoption of Published Agenda

4.1 Special Council Meeting Agenda for February 9, 2026

SP26-02-01

Moved By Councillor Hammond
Seconded By Councillor Garon

That the published agenda for the February 9, 2026 Special Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Reports from Administration

5.1 Development Services-2026-01, Development Services-2026-01

RE: Rural Transit Feasibility Study

Mary-Lou Johnston, Project Manager and Jeremy Cohen, Transit Planner of Arcadis Professional Services (Canada) Inc. presented on the Rural Transit Feasibility Study which focused on four areas: needs and opportunities analysis, public and stakeholder engagement, service design and financial and implementation plan. They recommended a hybrid model combining a fixed route and a rideshare/taxi subsidy and provided an estimated annual operating costs and capital costs as well as potential funding sources.

SP26-02-02

Moved By Councillor Hammond
Seconded By Deputy Mayor Shepley

That Development Services Report 2026-01 entitled Rural Transit Feasibility Study prepared by Lori Chadwick, director, Development Services dated February 9, 2026 be received for information.

Carried

6. Public Presentations

7. Adjournment

Moved By Deputy Mayor Shepley
Seconded By Councillor Allard

That the meeting be adjourned at 5:38 PM.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk